

	<h1>Garner Police Department</h1> <h2>Written Directive</h2>	
	Chapter: 800 - Operations	
	Directive: 820.13 – Ride-Along Program	
Authorized by: Chief Joe Binns		Effective Date: June 15, 2021
CALEA Standards: (None)		

820.13.1 – Policy

The policy of the Garner Police Department is to allow qualified persons to ride as a passenger/observer in Garner Police Department vehicles for legitimate training, civic, or educational purposes.

820.13.2 – Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines for the department's Ride-Along Program.

820.13.3 – Procedure

A. Process

1. Persons eighteen (18) years of age and older, that are currently employed with either a criminal justice agency or [Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center](#), or those that are current students in either the Garner Police Citizens' Academy or the Town's "Garner 101" Citizens' Academy are considered "pre-approved" to participate in the ride-along program.
2. The Patrol Division Lieutenant should confirm that an initial AOC criminal history check has been performed on all Garner Police Citizens' Academy and Town's "Garner 101" Citizens' Academy participants.
3. The Chief has designated the Patrol Division Lieutenant with the responsibility to review any additional requests from persons wishing to participate in the ride-along program.
4. Interested persons will make such a request by notifying the Patrol Division Lieutenant, or his designee, of their interest in participating in a ride-along.
 - a. Ride-Along candidates must complete and return (in person) a signed Garner Police Department [Release and Indemnity Agreement \(GPD Form 820.13\(a\)\)](#) prior to completing the ride-along.
 - b. Completed Release and Indemnity Agreement forms will be kept on file for a period of one (1) year from the date presented.
 - c. The Patrol Division Lieutenant, or his designee, will complete an AOC check on all ride-along candidates that are not associated with a criminal justice agency to determine if the candidate is of suitable character to participate in the ride-along program.
 - d. The Patrol Division Lieutenant, or his designee, has the right to approve or reject any eligible candidate for participation in the Ride-Along Program.

B. General Provisions:

1. Participation in the Ride-Along Program shall be limited to once every ninety (90) days and a maximum of three (3) rides unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police.
2. Ride-along participants will report to the on-duty patrol supervisor on the date and time assigned. He/she will carry valid identification and provide the name of the person to be contacted in case of an emergency.
3. Ride-along participants will dress in neat and clean clothing, including dress pants, dress shirt or blouse and appropriate shoes. No jeans, shorts or T-shirts will be permitted.
4. The ride-along participant shall be under the direction of the officer with whom he/she rides at all times. No ride-along participant, including representatives from the media, will be permitted to carry and use cameras and or recording devices without prior approval from the Chief of Police.
5. Ride-along participants will not carry a firearm or other weapon, regardless of any legal authorization they may possess.
6. Only one (1) ride-along participant will be permitted in a single police vehicle. No more than two (2) vehicles on any shift will have ride-along participants at one time without prior approval from the Chief of Police.

C. Law Enforcement Officers:

1. Law Enforcement Officers from other jurisdictions may participate in a ride-along; however, before riding the law enforcement officer must:
 - a. Have approval from the on-duty supervisor, and
 - b. Complete a [Ride-Along Release and Indemnity Agreement](#) in the presence of the on-duty supervisor.
2. The on-duty supervisor will be responsible for forwarding the completed Release and Indemnity Agreement to the Patrol Division Lieutenant, or his designee, upon the completion of the ride-along.

D. Supervisor Responsibilities:

1. The on-duty supervisor will have the authority to revoke the permission for an approved participant in the ride-along program at any time if the participant's attire, attitude, conduct, or personal hygiene is not in the best interest of the department or the patrol officer.
2. The on-duty supervisor will be responsible for:
 - a. Assigning the ride-along participant to an officer for the ride-along, and
 - b. Ensuring any necessary paperwork is completed and forwarded to the Patrol Division Lieutenant, or his designee, once the ride-along has been completed.